

YOUTHS NABBED AFTER BATTLE WITH SWITCH-BLADES, REVOLVER

A Penny for your Thoughts

Feeling a strong urge to travel, the HERALD team stepped gingerly into the street this week and asked:

"If you could take a trip to any place in the world, where would you go?"

Replying to the question were:

June Sims, 2219 W. 241st., bank teller: "Canada is a beautiful country. I would certainly like to see it. They say it is a very beautiful country."

Irving Lessin, attorney, 1423 1/2 Marcelina Ave.:

"If I could go anywhere, I think I would go through the High Sierras again. The High Sierras are the most beautiful spot in the United States."

Dot Garcia, 23738 Pennsylvania Ave., finance company clerk:

"I would go back to my hometown in Denver, Colo., because my folks live there. I would probably stay about one day and then come right back to California."

Mrs. Vernon Sandes, 1826 W. 147th St., Gardena, housewife:

"I think I'd like to go to Germany. I have relatives there I've never seen. I've heard a lot about Germany from soldiers who have been there—the hospitality, beautiful scenery, and good German food."

Andrew A. Abfelder, 20315 Denker Ave.:

"I'd like to go to Europe. I'd like to go through some of those places I visited during the war—France, Belgium, Luxembourg, Germany, and Switzerland."

Gene Esquilbe, 2619 Border Ave., aircraft worker:

"I'd like to go to Moscow. It is one of the most controversial spots in the world. We have read about it but we don't get a firsthand view. I'd like to see how the people live. The average person doesn't get to see what it is really like."

Council to Pay Election Costs

Duane Wheeler Co. won a split decision Tuesday night when city councilmen agreed by a 4-3 vote to pay the firm \$32,528 for special services connected with the April 8 municipal election.

About half of the sum had been paid before the election. Some of the councilmen had objected to certain of the expenses claimed by Wheeler in conducting the election for the city.

The amount voted Tuesday night did not include a \$1000 item which Wheeler said had been inserted as a sort of a "gag."

He explained he had included the item to kid city employees for their repeated inquiries to his firm. He said he never thought the item would be passed along to the council.

City Clerk A. H. Bartlett, who has the official responsibility for conducting the election, retained Wheeler's firm for assistance.

Mayor Albert Isen indicated an effort might be made to delegate some of Bartlett's responsibility. Later, Isen attempted to move that an assistant city attorney be given the job, but withdrew his motion on the request of City Attorney Stanley Remelmeyer.

Remelmeyer, meanwhile will submit a written report on where the responsibility of conducting municipal elections now legally rests.

Police Seek Three After Teen Assault

Police search continued this week for three young men who kidnaped and assaulted a 13-year-old girl here Sunday night.

The victim said she was grabbed by two of the boys as she emerged from a telephone booth near Gramercy and Craven in downtown Torrance about 8 p.m. She was forced into a car and driven to a lonely road near Lomita Blvd. and Normandie Ave., she said. A third suspect followed on his motorcycle to that location, and then returned her to the scene of the kidnaping after she was assaulted, she reported.

Merchants Give Flowers to Local Mothers

A great many women will be wearing flowers Friday and Saturday, thanks to the generosity of Torrance merchants.

The flowers—carnations—will be given free the two days to any mother who shops at one of the local stores.

The floral gift from the merchants is their way of giving recognition to mothers as part of the nationwide observance of Mother's Day Sunday, according to the Retail Merchants Division of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce.

Gunmen Take Cash, Blank Credit Cards

Armed gunmen who yelled "Stay down, or we'll blow your brains out," robbed an attendant at a service station at 174th St. and Hawthorne Ave. early Tuesday morning.

Attendant Dale Cellers told Torrance Police detectives that he was held up by two negroes who had earlier taken a can of gas from his station saying their car was stalled.

Returning with the car, which was being held with a large rag covering the top, one of the bandits pulled back the rag to expose a blue steel automatic.

"Come on in and lay on the floor," the attendant was told. "Where is the key to the register?" one suspect asked.

When Cellers hesitated, the other said: "You heard what he said, stay down or we'll blow your brains out."

Cellers said he stayed down for about five minutes and then called police.



MENDED DOLL . . . Eight-year-old Robin Hilburn of Waleria is a lucky girl despite the fact that a missing hip socket keeps her from running and playing like most youngsters. After all, not everyone gets a special visit from Santa Claus in May. The North Pole gent personally delivered Robin's doll after his elves had mended the broken legs. (Herald Photo)

Santa Brings Christmas in May to Waleria Youngster

It was a bright, sunny day in May . . . a day for fishing, or swimming, or playing baseball.

Everything was calm and serene in Waleria Monday . . . that is until 3 p.m.

That's when Santa Claus arrived! He made a special trip to deliver a bigger-than-life sized doll to a little girl who's had more than her share of troubles.

Robin Hilborn, 24229 Hawthorne Ave., is 8 1/2 years old, but has never been able to run and play like other children in her neighborhood. A missing hip socket has kept her a semi-invalid.

And when her birthday doll—presented last October—fell victim to a similar malady, things were even worse.

"Sweet Sue" (the doll) lost both legs . . . they just became unhinged.

That's when Santa Claus came into the picture.

Hearing of "Sweet Sue's" disaster, the jolly gent who makes his temporary home at Santa's Village near Lake Arrowhead, just couldn't let Robin down.

What with there being no snow, the reindeers had to stay home so Santa struck out for the big city in a modern day convenience—a station wagon.

And maybe last Monday was not Dec. 25 and Christmas-time and all that—but the Hilborn family felt the spirit of the occasion.

It radiated around Robin.

She bobbed around, craning every way, all the time asking her mother:

"Do you suppose he'll really be here?"

"Maybe he got lost!" But everyone knows Santa can't get lost, especially when he's on his way to deliver a very special package to a very special little girl.

Despite the fact Robin didn't sleep a wink the night before, her bright eyes spotted Santa's car before anyone else did.

One of the most excited persons at the Hilborn home was Robin's big brother, Mike. Even a sophisticated 14-year-old can be surprised when Christmas comes in May.

However, nobody outdid Robin's excitement . . . the special mending job on "Sweet Sue" that Santa's elves did . . . was just about the best medicine a girl can have . . . especially a girl who can't run and play . . . one who has to walk very slowly.

Recommends Insurance

The Lomita Civic League has become the third local organization to recommend to Assemblyman Vincent Thomas legislation requiring the same public liability insurance for pilots as for motorists.

National Supply Management Club Presents Two Checks

Winners of the Scholarship Awards Essay contest sponsored by the National Supply Management Club were presented with certificates and checks May 1 by Henry Moreau, scholarship chairman at National.

Each received \$150 for winning efforts in the contest held April 9 for seniors at Torrance and North high schools.

Miss Anna E. Buichl from North High wrote on the subject "The Value of Liberal Arts Courses for Industrial and Scientific Careers." She is taking a college prep course in high school with emphasis on science and math, and plans on continuing her studies at UCLA, majoring in psychology. After college, Miss Buichl expects to get into social welfare work, assisting the physically handicapped.

Richard W. Ryon is the winner from Torrance High. He follows the same course of study as Miss Buichl and chose the same subject for his winning essay. Ryon expects to continue his education at Santa Barbara or Riverside with a major in Education, and plans a career as a high school science teacher.

Both contestants are excellent students, and have maintained consistently high scholastic averages. In addition to the cash awards, already presented to them, both students become eligible to compete in the Zone "A" National Management Assn. Scholarship Award contest to be finally judged on May 23.

Pistol Held at Throat of Boy

Four Torrance boys were grabbed by police this week after a neighborhood battle turned into a melee with switch-blade knives and ended with a loaded pistol held against the throat of one of the lads.

Lt. D. C. Cook, head of the police juvenile bureau, said the boys, all in their teens, faced juvenile court hearings on the matter.

As reconstructed by investigators, the battle started near Carson St. and Flower, Tuesday, when a 16-year-old boy used a switch-blade knife to take a similar weapon away from another lad.

Agitated because he had lost his knife, the victim gathered up some friends and went to the home of his assailant to recover the knife.

After meeting the boys in front of his home, the 16-year-old youth went into his house and came out with a loaded 22-caliber pistol which he cocked and held against the throat of the lad who had lost the blade.

"I'll kill you," he was quoted as saying.

The boys dispersed and police were called to investigate. Lt. Cook described the blades as "extremely dangerous, and illegal."

Pilot Walks Away From Plane Crash

Wilmington pilot Lewis Simpson was able to walk away after crashing his Cessna 170 near the east end of the airport landing strip at Torrance Municipal Airport Sunday evening, police report.

Investigators said the crash occurred after the plane stalled during a landing approach. No estimate of the damage was made although the right landing gear, wing, and propeller were damaged heavily in the crash.

Gunmen Pull Daring Holdup in Daylight

A daring daylight robbery in the South Bay Shopping Center netted two gunmen \$4000 to \$6000 in cash and checks Tuesday.

Robert Joseph German, 27, assistant manager of a drug store in the Center, told police he was taking the cash and checks to a bank in the shopping center when the gunmen sped up in a car.

Flinging the car door open, one of the men brandished a .38 caliber revolver and forced German to turn over the money. The duo then sped away after ordering the drug store employ to return to the store.

ANN LANDERS ANSWERS 'BOY FRIEND' PROBLEM

"Please tell me how to keep my boy friend in line without losing him."

This is one of the problems Ann Landers helps to solve in her new booklet, "Necking and Petting—and How Far to Go." The booklet is one of a series by America's most widely read human relations columnist, Ann Landers.

From the experiences of millions of readers, Ann Landers knows how a girl can keep her head, her reputation, and her boy friend.

She may solve the very problems that are puzzling you.

For details on how to get this booklet, turn to Ann Landers' column found today on the first page of the Women's section.



ESSAY WINNERS . . . Scholarship award certificates and checks are presented to Anna Buichl of North High School and Richard Ryon of Torrance High School by Henry Moreau of National. Presentation is observed by North High Principal Dale Harter and Torrance High Principal Carl Ahee.